

The Abstract of the Disclosure has been rewritten.

The incomplete sentence at the end of page 11 has been deleted.

Respectfully submitted,



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**Abstract of the Disclosure (amended)**

Linear predictive system with classification of LP residual Fourier coefficients into two or more overlapping classes, and each class has its own vector quantization codebook(s). ~~And modified The use of strong and weak predictors minimizes codebook size by only quantizing the difference between Fourier coefficients of a frame and the Fourier coefficients predicted from a prior frame. The choice of using either a strong or weak predictor adapts to the prior choice of predictor so that to replace a strong predictor following a weak predictor with is changed to a weak predictor to insure attenuation of error propagation as arise from frame erasures.~~

Page 11, delete the last section

**Modifications**

~~— The preferred embodiments can be modified in various ways while retaining the features of~~

In the claims

1. (amended) An encoding system method using strong and weak predictors, comprising the step of:

(a) replace a strong predictor following a weak predictor with a weak predictor.

2. (new) The method of claim 1, wherein:

(a) said strong predictor and said weak predictor predict the Fourier coefficients for the pitch harmonics.

3. (new) The method of claim 2, wherein:

(a) said strong predictor equals a multiple of the Fourier coefficients of a prior frame with the multiple in the range of 0.7 to 1.0; and

(b) said weak predictor equals a second multiplier of the Fourier coefficients of said prior frame with said second multiplier in the range of 0.0 to 0.3.

4. (new) The method of claim 1, wherein:

(a) said step (a) of claim 1 replaces second successive strong predictor with a corresponding second weak predictor.